

REMARKS

Claims 1-2 and 11-20 are now pending in the application. By this paper, Claims 1-2 and 11-14 have been amended, Claims 15-20 have been added, and Claims 3-10 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. The basis for these amendments and new claims can be found throughout the specification, claims, and drawings originally filed. No new matter has been added. The preceding amendments and the following remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action and are believed to place the application in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Applicant respectfully submits that this objection is moot as Claims 3-10 have been cancelled without prejudice. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yoshii et al. (U.S. Pat. No.6,147,724).

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent Claim 1 calls for an electro-optical device including an electro-optical panel having an electro-optical material, a holding member for holding the

electro-optical panel, a light-guide plate illuminating the electro-optical panel, a wiring circuit board disposed in the rear of the light-guide plate, a circuit board mounting the electro-optical panel, and a conductive terminal disposed between the wiring circuit board and the circuit board. See Specification at pg. 11, Paragraph [0039], pg. 12, Paragraph [0040], and FIG. 1. In addition, independent Claim 1 recites that the terminal is made of a conductor that is “elastically deformable substantially in a contacting direction to the circuit board.” See Specification at pg. 8, Paragraph [0023] and FIG. 1.

Independent Claim 1 calls for a conductive terminal (211) disposed between a wiring circuit board (122) and a circuit board (200). See Specification at pg. 14, Paragraph [0046] and FIG. 1. The conductive terminal (211) is a “compression-type” conductor that is elastically deformable in a contacting direction to the circuit board (200). See pg. 14, Paragraph [0046]. The elastic nature of the conductive terminal (211) allows sufficient contact pressure between the wiring circuit board (122) and the circuit board (200).

Yoshii fails to teach an elastically deformable conductive terminal disposed between a wiring circuit board and a circuit board. Yoshii teaches a video signal line-side flexible printed circuit board (FPC2) that is connected to an external terminal of a glass substrate (SUB1) through an anisotropic conductive film. See Yoshii at Col. 11, Ins. 52-65 and FIG. 5A. The Examiner asserts that the Yoshii teaches a foil conductor (YL) that is “readily elastically deformable substantially in a contact direction of an object.” See Office Action mailed March 24, 2005 at pg. 3. Yoshii teaches a metal foil conductor (YL) “sandwiched between” *plastic* films (BSF1, BSF2) “so that it can be bent flexibly.” See Yoshii at Col. 18, Ins. 24-29 and FIG.

20C. The metal foil of Yoshii is not disposed between a wiring circuit board and a circuit board. In fact, the metal foil of Yoshii is not positioned between at least one conductive material, but rather, is disposed between two non-conductive *plastic* films.

Because Yoshii fails to teach an elastically deformable conductive terminal disposed between a wiring circuit board and a circuit board, Applicant respectfully submits that Yoshii fails to teach each and every element of the present invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claim 1, as well as Claims 2 and 11-20, dependent therefrom, are in condition for allowance. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIMS

New Claims 15-20 are added for consideration. New Claims 15-20 depend from independent Claim 1, which is believed to be in condition for allowance in light of the foregoing remarks.

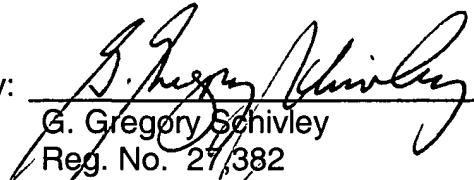
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the

Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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